

to secure an expression of opinion on the subject. Essex County, having the largest vote in the State, was asked to give or deny a Republican majority on National questions for years, with the members of the Legislature, and the people, in general, of the other sections, particularly in Southern Essex County, and the State at large, in the lead. Republicans show them to be strongly in favor of James G. Blaine.

**DELAWARE.**  
**REPUBLICAN HOPES FOR SUCCESS—AN EFFORT TO BE MADE.**  
*New York Times.*  
 WILMINGTON, Dec. 10.—If the Republicans of Delaware, including the full colored strength, can all be qualified to vote in November by assessment now and payment of the poll tax, there is a strong probability that they may cast a Republican majority. The statement, however, ought not to be made rashly than this. There is a fighting chance, but it is a hard one. There has been a steadily Democratic ever since 1850, and as late as 1880, when the Democrats were elected as a Union man in 1880, except at the polls, under the demoralization of the Greeley nomination. Gen. Grant received his Election certificate and the Legislature was elected two-thirds Democratic, there being not a member of the opposing party in it at that time. In 1884, the Legislature elected Senator Riddle, of this county, elected in 1872, and who held over into the year 1884, and the Legislature was elected two-thirds Democratic. The majority in the Legislature does not exist in the State, and in 1880, it was not in the State, it was not in the State.

1,299; and in 1876, 6,680. Comparing these figures with those of Delaware is only a single Congressional district, it corresponds to something like a group of four or five such districts. It is only incongruous in looking at it as a single Congressional district, never, since the time of the Revolution, has Delaware had a square seat of party strength. At the time of the Revolution, it was the only State that had gained their right of suffrage, and they were—as in 1870—to a large extent, the only State that had elected a majority of the polls, while since that time incomplete and unfair assessments have handicapped their ranks to a considerable degree. With a full vote, and a fair representation in the Senate, Delaware would be Republican, but without such a vote can he hold this year the chief element of the problem of the South, and the Legislature now to be elected decide the continuation of Mr. Bayard in the Senate, and the expiration of his term, which will expire in March, 1881, and if it is to be taken for granted that he will not be called back, the influence of Mr. Bayard in the field during the canvass next year will be greatly increased, and the Republicans very much greater, for if Mr. Bayard's personal and political strength is not overrated, his influence in the canvass is great, and his influence, when he poses fully to exert it, so commanding.

to go on the other side to make an effective campaign. At the same time there was a change in M. Clayton's position. He had been successful in the same situation; Mr. Clayton was now successful in the same situation. After he had once risen to prominence in National politics. The Republicans have now a new success in the same situation. The State Committee is the old one, holding on from 1876, and it is not so conservative, no ticket formed, and no contest held, made two years ago. Mr. H. P. Clayton, of this State, is a Republican, and in full accord with the present policy, and make an earnest Republican effort. He will be a member of the committee to appoint the meeting of a State Convention, and the organization will be a complete organization will be fully equipped for the time the campaign is ready to open. The State Committee is a Republican element, largely recruited from the Northern men, which will give substantial support to the Republican cause. It may fairly be said that there will be a good deal of made, and Delaware may be set on a par with the other States of the possibly Republican in November.

**VIRGINIA.**  
**SENATOR MAXWELL'S POSITION.**  
Special Dispatch to The Chicago Tribune.  
WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 10. The Senate today voted to confirm the nomination of Senator Maxwell.

giving the Bourbon organs of that State at concern. The latest authentic statement from Mahone is that he will use his influence in favor of the election of a electoral ticket which shall be pledged to no party and to no particular candidate for the presidency. Being appealed by the representatives of the two principal organs in the State as to whether this statement was true or not, Gen. Mahone does not deny it. In view of this the Democrats are preparing to give him a warm reception in the *Evening Dispatch* of to-day does in the following paragraph:

"The Democratic organ have announced their allegiance to the National Democratic ticket. There can be no doubt that they will send from Virginia to the Democratic National Convention. If the Republicans are to be successful in their efforts to elect a Bourbon Democratic in Washington as heartily as they are in this State, they will not get with the Conservatives, so that the Democrats will have no opposition in the making of the nomination for president, and afterwards the sailing will be made for the low water mark of the Mahone will live up to the program."

**INDIANA.**

**THE GUBERNATORIAL FIGHT.**

*Special Dispatch to The Chicago Tribune.*

ted States Marshal Dudley has been bereaved with letters and interviews asking to become a candidate for Governor before the September election. Dudley has always been backed by complimentary notices in the country papers and by the ages of many soldiers throughout the state to work for his nomination. It is believed that his reputation for integrity would add great strength to the ticket, and demands upon him therefore come in the nature of a duty as well as a privilege. The following interview shows he hesitates to commit himself for any reason that he now holds a lucrative and profitable office. The urgency of his friends, however, is so great that he has decided to do so and it is not unlikely his name will be placed in nomination. It is worth noting that he is usually generous or not. It was said that William Williams, of Warsaw, pledges support to him, and that he will be elected. Meanwhile, the soldier friends of Gen. Gen. Gen. Coburn, and Gen. Straight are also quite active in the matter. The fight for character and War record is the issue. The State is ripe for these indications, therefore, and the military issue will be a lively one, and that now is the time to get ready for it. Gen. Hunter's health is so rapidly

**NOTES.**  
EX-MINISTER WARREN'S DENIAL.  
NEW YORK, Jan. 31.—To the Editor of the *New York Herald*: My attention was called to an evening to what purported to be an in-



# WASHINGTON.

## The Railroad Plan for Reduction of Duty on Steel Rails.

As Made on Covert's Bill Before the Ways and Means Committee.

Western Steel Manufacturers in Opposition Thereto to Be Heard To-Day.

The House the Scene of a Regular Political Wrangle Yesterday.

Growing Out of the Attempt to Distribute the Appropriations.

So as to Give the Several Committees Control Over the Same.

A Treasury Call for \$11,000,000 in Bonds for the Sinking Fund.

The Senate Committee to Report Adversely on the Warner Silver Bill.

Gen. Hammond's Explanation of His Interview with Commissioner Hayt.

DUTY ON RAILS.

THE RAILROAD INDUSTRY FROM SPECIAL DISPATCH TO THE CHICAGO TRIBUNE.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 3.—The House of Representatives today passed a bill to reduce the duty on steel rails from 25 to 10 per cent.

AT MILWAUKEE.

AT AUGUSTA, ME.

AT NEWARK, N. J.

AT ATLANTICVILLE, N. J.

AT GREENSBORO, IND.

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